Message from the Chair

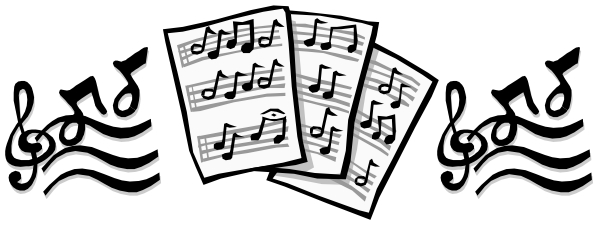
Greetings alumni and friends! When I last wrote to you I was serving as interim chair of the music department. I shared some of the many new and exciting things happening in Butler Music Center and around our campus. My colleagues have asked me to serve as the regular chairman of the department for the next few years. We are looking forward to an exciting year of teaching and music making in our efforts to continue providing something for which you and the university may be proud. We will be settling into a revised curriculum following last year's mandate by the state to reduce the number of credit hours per program. You can be assured that the quality of our degree programs remains high.

We are also developing new initiatives for raising music scholarships and improving our exposure through improved PR. Our recruitment efforts have been more successful in recent years and we are retaining a larger percentage of our music students through their full four-year programs. This will also be the first year for our revised Master's program.

The department continues to be supported by the university and is now allowed to have more graduate assistants. In the fall we will welcome five new graduate assistants and two full time graduate students. Three are pursuing the conducting emphasis (two instrumental and one choral) and four will emphasize music education. We are excited to have these individuals to help the teachers in the department.

We have a new secretary in our department. Mrs. Melanie Seymour has been running the music office since February and we are very impressed with her kind professionalism. If you ever need any information or need to get in touch with a faculty member, she is the person to call!

Finally, you should be aware that budget cuts are beginning to hit us pretty hard and financial operation of the department is becoming more difficult. As you know, music departments tend to be expensive and we are doing our best to further economize. For example, the *Cadenza* will be primarily available online. We will continue to send you a printed copy if you do not have access to a computer and you are always welcome to visit us at our website. The phone number for the department is still (570) 662-4710. The *Cadenza* reaches 2940 alumni and friends. We are extremely grateful for any and all donations received from our alumni and friends. But are you aware of what such a donation from each one of you could do for the department? Our operating budget would be vastly enhanced and we could attract more students through better scholarship offers. We could make important equipment purchases and bring in more guest artists. If you haven't donated in the past, we would like you to consider making an annual donation to the department through the Mansfield University Foundation. All gifts are appreciated and can be sent to the Mansfield Foundation with "music department" listed on the memo line. We thank you for your past and continued support as your contributions are important to the realization of our mission as a department.



Upcoming Choral Activity Highlights *By Peggy Dettwiler*

The choral program for 2003-2004 will feature a wide array of choral styles, offering a wonderful diet for the students and community of Mansfield University. Our annual Fall Choral Collage on Saturday, October 25, at 8 p.m., will present a world premiere of a work just written for the MU Concert Choir by Fred Thayer of Williamsport, PA. Fred took my favorite text, a Sanskrit prayer, and crafted a lovely composition entitled, "Look to this Day." Other works to be performed will highlight instrumental accompaniment including tuba, timpani, and French horn soloists.

The Third Annual Young Men's Choral Festival, sponsored by our student ACDA chapter, will be held on Thursday, November 6, and will bring to the campus "Cantus," a men's ensemble that is rising to international fame. They originated at St. Olaf College and model themselves after Chanticleer. Eileen Hower will be the guest conductor for the more than 100 young male singers who regularly participate.

The theme for this year's pair of holiday choral concerts on December 5 & 6 is "Glorious Glorias." Music for men's, women's, and mixed choirs from the Renaissance to the Contemporary that uses the text "Glory to God in the Highest" will be featured. Magnificent settings by Josquin, Bach, and Rutter will be included along with Jazz and Gospel selections.

Kimber Billow, one of our outstanding music alums, will be the guest clinician for the Annual School Choral Festival on March 23 & 24. The theme we have chosen this year will be the music of Stephen Sondheim. Each school that comes for the workshop will be asked to sing at least one selection, whose music or lyrics were written by this American icon.

The Concert Choir tour will take the group to Rochester, NY, from March 30 through April 1st. Watch for a performance if you live in the area!

On April 17 & 18, the Festival Chorus and Concert Choir will present one of the greatest choral works of all time, the thrilling Mass in B Minor by Johann Sebastian Bach, with full orchestra and professional alumni soloists. For the second performance, we will travel to the beautiful Corning Museum of Glass Auditorium as we have done for the past two years.

To bring the year to a close, I have the honor of conducting the Pennsylvania All-State Chorus at the PMEA Conference in Erie on April 24. The program I have chosen is called, "Connections to the Continents," and features works from around the world. It will be a great thrill to conduct more than 250 of the finest high school singers in the state!

Do hope to see many of you in the audience at these choral events during the year.

MU Band News

The Mansfield University "Pride of Pennsylvania!" Marching Band performs at all home football games and other functions. The band will travel to Dauphin, PA on September 20 where it will be featured at a high school marching festival. Then it will go to Allentown, PA where it will perform at the annual Collegiate Marching Band Festival on the 21st. The big trip of the season will be to the Catasauqua Sesquicentennial Celebration on October 4 where it will perform its field show, participate in the parade and play with 10 other bands in a massed performance of patriotic music. Dr. Adam Brennan, our director of bands, has been chosen to create the musical arrangements, rehearse the assembled bands and conduct them at the big closing ceremony.

The marching band enrollment continues to grow, as does the quality of this performing ensemble. With an emphasis on quality music and excellence in performance, the band is recognized as a premiere collegiate marching unit in the state. Membership for the 2003 season is more than 170 members. About 30 student staff assist Dr. Brennan and new Assistant Director of Bands Nathan Rinnert. In addition, two graduate students are assigned to the band as part of their duties.

Plans for the annual Concert Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band tour have not been finalized yet. The wind ensemble plans an exciting year with two concerts in the fall and two in the spring. In late May the bands will host their third annual Honor's Band Concert featuring a weekend of activities for three of the finest bands in the state of PA. As always, the bands will host their annual Jazz Festival and Band and Orchestra Festival during the spring semester. A new band CD should be released in the fall featuring the wind ensemble, jazz band and marching bands. Please consult our online schedule of events for tour and on-campus performance dates for this and all other events. You may also call our new secretary, Melanie Seymour at (570) 662-4710 for a copy of our printed schedule of events.

Faculty Highlights

Joe Murphy will return to full-time duty following a year during which he had a fall sabbatical and a part-time leave in the spring semester. He developed three programs, which he performed at 24 saxophone concerts in five states plus three recitals in France. Joe also researched and created a database of saxophone web sites (1100 items), saxophone music (1000 items), recordings (1200), reference bibliography (900), and World Saxophone Congress historical material (3000 items). He also did other research, some writing and he has prepared Powerpoint presentations having to do with the process by which students learn music. His full-time teaching assignment will include saxophone instruction, supervision of student teachers and a course on computer music.

Nate Rinnert is welcomed to our faculty as our new assistant director of bands. He was selected from a pool of candidates following a nationwide search. Mr. Rinnert is a tuba player and conductor on his way to completing his doctoral work at the University of Miami at Coral Gables. He will be the drill coordinator and assistant director of our widely renowned "The Pride of Pennsylvania" Marching Band, symphonic band and will assist with music education courses as well.

Margaret Underwood has moved on to study for her doctoral degree at the University of Minnesota. Margi served as assistant director of bands for three years, first as a part time teacher and more recently as a temporary full-time teacher. The students and faculty enjoyed working with her very much and we all wish her the best of luck for a successful career.

Dana Tan will continue for another year as our part-time instructor of flute.

Angela McBrearty has resigned from the faculty to devote all her time to her new family. Angela served for four years our professor of flute and instrumental music education. We wish her and her family all the best.

Jean-Anne Teal was granted a sabbatical to teach voice and perform at Volgograd University in Russia during the fall, 2003 semester.

Pamela Kurau has been appointed to teach voice during Dr. Teal's sabbatical.

Kenneth Sarch was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Bolivia where he is will provide his expertise as a string teacher, conductor and orchestra builder. He and his family left in July and will spend the fall, 2003 semester there.

Adrian Bryttan has been appointed to teach strings and conduct the MU Symphony Orchestra during the fall semester. Noted for his musical insight and refinement, Adrian Bryttan has enjoyed an international career as violin soloist as well as conductor. On the podium, Mr. Bryttan's extensive symphonic repertoire encompasses first performances of works by George Rochberg, Eugene Philips and Ludmila Ulehla. He's been engaged to lead new productions at the Chicago Opera Theatre, New Haven and New Rochelle Operas, the John Brownlee Opera Theatre, Sinfonia Varsovia in Warsaw, Theater Bielefeld in Germany, the Seoul Philharmonic in Korea and numerous performances with the Lviv Philharmonic, Lviv Opera and Kharkiv Opera in Ukraine. "Classical New Jersey" praised his conducting of Wagner's "Die Walküre" as "brilliant and masterful...could have emerged from any orchestra pit in the world with honor." Mr. Bryttan has served as conductor and violinist on the music faculties at Memphis State, Kansas State and Notre Dame Universities and most recently, Vassar College. He's invited to conduct operatic and symphonic performances at Rutgers University and the Manhattan School of Music. He is also a member on the faculty at the Pre College Division at the Manhattan School of Music. He continues to enjoy working with young musicians, most recently as conductor for four seasons with the New Jersey Youth Symphony. His latest CD recording, Händel's "Acis and Galatea" is on the Schwann Koch label.

Mark-Daniel Schmid read his paper "Stop, Thief! Or Whose Music Is It Anyway?" as part of a conference on May 3, 2003, at Stanford University entitled "Reviewing the Canon: Borrowed Music in Films." In June, Dr. Schmid conducted research on Richard Strauss's song reception at the Newberry Library in Chicago with the goal of discussing his findings in a conference paper in the near future. He's completing the final round of editing on the "Richard Strauss Companion," which will be commercially available in September. Dr. Schmid has fortunately been able to enjoy his growing daughters, now ages three and one, despite his hectic academic activity.

Matthew Slotkin recently completed his first CD. "Twentieth Century Music for Guitar," released on Centaur Records, includes works by Roussel, Falla, Milhaud, Poulenc, Auric, Martin, Villa-Lobos, Henze and Orbon. It also contains the

Continued on next page

Alumnotes

Robert Ashmore (’79) received his MA in Music at MU, then went on to engineering school. He’s worked at Bell Labs (now Agere Systems - an AT&T/Lucent spinoff) for more than 20 years. He performs on his Kurzweiler synthesizers in mostly progressive rock and jazz groups featuring the music of YES, Genesis, ELP, Pink Floyd, Beatles, Frank Zappa, Jean Luc Ponty, Jeff Beck, Steely Dan, Santana, etc. Bob lives at 580 Forest St. in Lehighton, PA 18235. Email: ash@agere.com

Kimber Billow (’70) has moved to 100 Bayberry Ave. #17 in Provincetown, MA 02657. He recently retired from the Elmira, NY schools where he taught music for 33 1/2 years. He enjoys living on Cape Cod. He’s a consultant for a theater company in NYC and serves as a guest conductor. He shares with us his sadness at hearing of Florence Borkey’s death. He remembers her as an inspiration to so many who knew her during her years at Mansfield. Email: chuckimber@aol.com

Melissa (Fisher) Trois (’94) married Stephen Trois on November 25, 2000. The couple welcomed their daughter Isabella Catherine on September 5, 2001. Melissa serves as the Director of Music for Trinity United Church of Christ in Telford, PA. She has been accepted to Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary and plans to pursue the Master of Divinity degree toward her calling as an ordained minister within the United Church of Christ. The Trois live at 864 N. Washington St. in Pottstown, PA 19464. Email: im.pook@verizon.net

Mrs. Mary D. Gethers, Jr (’78) of 667 Dixon St., Allentown, PA 18103 is a Case Manager/Service Coordinator for people with disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. Email: faithcounts@verizon.net

Terry Gordon (M.S. ’91) recently released “Contemplations,” the Terry Gordon Quintet’s second professional CD, on Flying Gurnard Records. This, with their first CD “Wakeup Call,” is available at www.cdbaby.com. He lives at 120 Short Rd., Sharon Springs, NY 13459. Email: tgqjazz@juno.com

Ms. Inez (Young) Hutcheson (’33) taught public school music in PA for 16 years, then in MD for another 16 years. She received her master’s degree from Maryland University. Inez retired in 1973, moved to FL and then to Ft. Clark Springs, TX. She is 91 years old and is active as a minister in the Pentacostal Apostolic Church in San Antonio. Her address is P.O. Box 1154, Brackettville, TX 78832

Paul and Brenda (Moon) Kenyon (’83) live at 4432 Paolo Way in San Diego, CA 92117. Brenda has taught public school music for the past 18 years. She recently moved from high school to elementary school teaching where she is the vocal music teacher at Green Elementary School. She’s active in the local MENC and ACDA organizations. Paul is the chairman of the music department at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego. He performs as the pianist in Trio Point Loma. Paul and Brenda have been married for 19 years and have three children. Email: pkenyon@ptloma.edu

Frederick Moyer would like to alert his friends to his new address: 1060 Macoby Creek Way, Pennsburg, PA 18073. Email: Fmoyer9@aol.com

Deb (Rogers) Myers (’80) and her family were recently in Florida where they stopped in Bradenton and visited Irwin and Pauline Borodkin (Irwin taught cello and Pauline was

Continued on next page

Faculty Highlights, *continued*

world premiere recording of “Feuille d’Album” by Carlos Chavez. The CD is being distributed worldwide by Centaur Records and will be available in stores and online in July. Congratulations to our professor of guitar!

Dr. Adam F. Brennan had his composition “Traditions” premiered by the combined efforts of the Mansfield University Concert Wind Ensemble and the MU Alumni Wind Ensemble. The work was dedicated to the ensemble as they celebrated their 50th anniversary. Dr. Brennan is now completing a new composition for wind ensemble entitled “Tenebrae” (Dark Hours). This new work will be premiered by the MU Concert Wind Ensemble on their fall tour and November concerts.

the music librarian at MU until their retirement). While they were there, Marjorie and Richard Kemper just happened to call. The Kempers and Borodkins remain good friends and Deb knew them from her years at MU. Deb continues to teach string music for Fairfax County Public School in Virginia. Both of her daughters are cellists, and her husband Craig is their "roadie."

Nancy (Applin) Pierce ('72) resides at 18 Greenridge Crescent in Hamlin, NY 14464. Nancy retired from teaching vocal/choral music in June, 2002. She taught in the Fulton Consolidated, Oswego City and Kendall Central schools in NY. She taught all levels K-12 and held many state and divisional elected and appointed positions. She would love to hear from her Alpha Sigma Alpha sisters to plan a reunion. She is still active as an adjudicator, guest conductor and clinician. Email: NanMusic@aol.com

Laura (Beahm) Welkey ('86) has resigned her music teaching position of 15 years to stay home with her daughters Jessica, 8 and Regan, 5. She continues to sing in the Bach Choir of Bethlehem, PA, and she will be travelling with the group on a singing tour of England and Scotland. She teaches privately and does studio recordings for Warner Brothers. Laura lives at 3332 Shady Oaks Dr., Saylorburg, PA 18535. Email: ilweldit@ptd.net

Herb S. Williams ('38) resides at 2701 Regency Oaks Blvd in Clearwater, FL 33759. He was at MU in 2002 when he presented a plaque to the university from the 17 music education graduates of the class of 1938. He has been playing French horn in the Clearwater Community Band for 17 years. He and his wife, Grace Lea Fearing Williams will soon be celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary.

Leon Whitesell ('58) is officially retired but still serves as adjunct professor of piano and organ at both the University of Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma City Community College. He is also the organist for the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Oklahoma City, OK. He was named Oklahoma Musician of the Year by the NFMC in 2002. He tells us that he still holds fond memories of his years at (then) Mansfield State Teachers College, and he especially reveres his wonderful piano teacher, Dr. John B. Little. Leon's address is 5117 Northwest 161st Street in Edmond, OK 73013. Email LDW5117@aol.com

Steve Zdzinski attended MU as a special student between 1977-1983, and played horn and cello in various university ensembles. He is an associate professor of music education at the University of Miami School of Music where he is the coordinator of graduate studies in music education. He reports that the job is fantastic: great students, outstanding colleagues and an alligator in the lake by the music school. The weather is great and he doesn't miss the snow too much. P.O. Box 248165, Coral Gables, FL 33126. Email: szdzinski@miami.edu

William Sawyer ('85) and **Laura (Wheeler) Sawyer** ('88) adopted a daughter from China in January, 2003. Ainsley Yalian Sawyer was born on March 27, 2002. She is thriving and already loves to play percussion. Bill, Laura and Ainsley live in Whitesboro, NY where Bill works at Fort Stanwix National Monument and Laura is a music therapist. Email: adkwolf@adelphia.net

Thomas Lawler ('90) recently became the new director of bands at Panther Valley H.S. where he conducts the marching band, concert band and jazz band. Kimberly (Kolesar) Lawler ('94) has been director of music at Nativity Lutheran Church in Allentown, PA for three years. She conducts three choirs and plays organ and piano there. She also runs The Klarinette & Klavier Music Studio where she teaches private lessons to 16 students. Tom and Kimberly reside in Lehighton, PA along with their sons Christopher 6, and Patrick 3. Email: tlawler@ptd.net

Faculty Chamber Music on the Road

Sera Smolen (cello), Nancy Boston (piano) and Joe Murphy (saxophone) will perform music by Libby Larsen, Brenton Broadstock, Michael Kallstrom and David Liebman at Dickenson College this coming September 5, then at the University of Louisville on September 25 and the University of Western Kentucky on September 26.

Matt Slotkin (guitar) and Joe Murphy performed at Chatauqua Institute on August 13 and they will perform again together at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington on November 19 with a reprise at East Carolina University on November 20.

Their concert includes music by Kechley, Piazzolla, Beaser, Corea and Towner.

Nancy Boston and Joe Murphy will perform "Saxophone Music by Pulitzer Prize Winning Composers" at the MENC national conference in Minneapolis in April 2004. They will be playing music by Bolcom, Bassett, Harbison, Husa, Rands and Rorem.

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